

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9030

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, WB, US, UK, GW, FR

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION TO FRG ON OUTSTANDING IGS ISSUES

REF: A. STATE 60411 B. BONN 4578

1. ON BASIS REF A EMB ASS'T CAA INFORMED UK CAA GROVES THAT US WOULD PREFER TO PROCEED WITH IMMEDIATE BCATAG PRESENTATION ON ROUTE SWAP WITHOUT POLITICAL PRESENTATION AS PROPOSED BY THE BRITISH. GROVES REPORTED BACK THAT LONDON STILL FELT STRONGLY ON THE PRESENTATION BUT WOULD BE WILLING TO USE BONN GROUP FORUM AND INSERT US PROPOSED WORDING, PARA 1, REF A. GROVES FURTHER SAID LONDON HAD RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO PRESENTING RATIONALIZATION PROPOSAL IN THE BCATAG BEFORE FARE INCREASE APPLICATION WAS TABLED, PROVIDED THAT ALLIES MADE CLEAR TO THE GERMANS THAT A FARE INCREASE WAS PRESENTLY UNDER SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BY THE ALLIES. THE BRITISH WOULD ALSO WANT THE ROUTE SWAP PRESENTATION TO INCLUDE SOME REVIEW OF ITS -IMPACT ON THE CARRIERS' FINANCES.

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2. GIVEN BRITISH WILLINGNESS TO MOVE QUICKLY ON THE

ROUTE SWAP, WE AGREED TO BONN GROUP PRESENTATION FOR THE POLITICAL PAPER. WE ALSO AGREED THAT FULL FRENCH SUPPORT FOR THE POLITICAL PRESENTATION SHOULD BE SOUGHT, ALTHOUGH GROVES SAID THE BRITISH WOULD BE WILLING TO SETTLE FOR "FRENCH ACQUIESCENCE" IF FULL CONCURRENCE COULD NOT BE OBTAINED QUICKLY. DURING BONN GROUP TRI-PARTITE - CAA MEETING ON MARCH 26 BRITISH REP PROVIDED FRENCH WITH BACKGROUND OF THE PAPER AND ASKED FOR FRENCH CONCURRENCE IN A BONN GROUP PRESENTATION. EMB ASS'T CAA STRESSED THAT US SIDE WOULD HOPE FOR A FRENCH DECISION TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF FULLY WITH THE PRESENTATION. FRENCH REP DE BOISSIEU SAID THAT BASED ON A QUICK RUN-THROUGH OF THE PAPER HE COULD SEE NO PROBLEMS IN LENDING SUPPORT IN THE BONN GROUP; HOWEVER, HE WOULD REQUIRE A DAY OR SO TO REVIEW THE PAPER CAREFULLY AND PROMISED TO BE IN TOUCH.

3. GIVEN PROSPECTS FOR A RAPID RESOLUTION OF THE POLITICAL PRESENTATION QUESTION WE PROPOSE TO BEGIN WORK IMMEDIATELY ON ROUTE SWAP MATERIAL FOR THE BCATAG. IN THIS CONNECTION WE ARE INCLINED TO THINK THAT SOME IDEA OF THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE RATIONALIZATION PROPOSAL SHOULD BE PROVIDED THE GERMANS AT THIS JUNCTURE; HOWEVER, FOR TACTICAL REASONS WE WOULD THINK IT WISEST TO POSTPONE A FULL REVIEW OF AIRLINE FINANCIAL DATA UNTIL THE FARE INCREASE QUESTION IS CLARIFIED.
HILLENBRAND

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